



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

7 CFR Part 905

[Docket No. AMS-FV-14-0008; FV14-905-1 CR]

Oranges, Grapefruit, Tangerines, and Tangelos Grown in Florida; Continuance Referendum

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Referendum order.

SUMMARY: This document directs that a referendum be conducted among eligible producers of oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and tangelos grown in Florida to determine whether they favor continuance of the marketing order regulating the handling of oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and tangelos produced in the production area.

DATES: The referendum will be conducted from April 7 through April 25, 2014. To vote in this referendum, producers must have produced oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, or tangelos within the designated production area in Florida for the fresh market during the period of August 1, 2012, through July 31, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the marketing order may be obtained from the referendum agents at 799 Overlook Drive, Winter Haven, FL 33884, or the Office of the Docket Clerk, Marketing Order and Agreement Division, Fruit and Vegetable Program, AMS, USDA, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, STOP 0237,

Washington, DC 20250-0237; Fax: (202) 720-8938; or Internet: www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Corey E. Elliott, Marketing Specialist, or Christian D. Nissen, Regional Director, Southeast Marketing Field Office, Marketing Order and Agreement Division, Fruit and Vegetable Program, AMS, USDA; Telephone: (863) 324-3375, Fax: (863) 325-8793, or E-mail: Corey.Elliott@ams.usda.gov or Christian.Nissen@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Marketing Order No. 905, as amended (7 CFR Part 905), hereinafter referred to as the "order," and the applicable provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended (7 U.S.C. 601-674), hereinafter referred to as the "Act," it is hereby directed that a referendum be conducted to ascertain whether continuance of the order is favored by producers. The referendum shall be conducted from April 7 through April 25, 2014, among Florida fresh citrus producers in the production area. Only fresh citrus producers that were engaged in the production of oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, or tangelos grown in the production area, during the period of August 1, 2012, through July 31, 2013, may participate in the continuance referendum.

USDA has determined that continuance referenda are an effective means for determining whether producers favor the

continuation of marketing order programs. USDA would consider termination of the order if less than two-thirds of the producers voting in the referendum and less than two-thirds of the volume of Florida fresh citrus represented in the referendum favor continuance. In evaluating the merits of continuance versus termination, USDA will consider the results of the continuance referendum. USDA will also consider all other relevant information concerning the operation of the order and the relative benefits and disadvantages to producers, handlers, and consumers in determining whether continued operation of the order would tend to effectuate the declared policy of the Act.

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the ballot materials to be used in the referendum have been submitted to and approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and have been assigned OMB No. 0581-0189, Generic Fruit Crops. It has been estimated that it will take an average of 20 minutes for each of the approximately 750 producers of oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, and tangelos grown in Florida to cast a ballot. Participation is voluntary. Ballots postmarked after April 25, 2014, will not be included in the vote tabulation.

Corey E. Elliott and Christian D. Nissen of the Southeast Marketing Field Office, Fruit and Vegetable Program, AMS, USDA, are hereby designated as the referendum agents of the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct this referendum. The procedure applicable to the referendum shall be the "Procedure for the Conduct of Referenda in Connection With Marketing Orders for Fruits, Vegetables, and Nuts Pursuant to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as Amended" (7 CFR 900.400-900.407).

Ballots will be mailed to all producers of record and may also be obtained from the referendum agents, or from their appointees.

List of Subjects in 7 CFR Part 905

Grapefruit, Oranges, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Tangerines, and Tangelos.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 601-674.

Dated: February 27, 2014

Rex A. Barnes
Associate Administrator
Agricultural Marketing Service

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